

**From:** JP Glutting  
**To:** tom.reilly@ago.state.ma.us@inetgw  
**Date:** 11/26/01 7:16pm  
**Subject:** Settlement with Microsoft

Dear Attorney General Mr. Riley,

I am writing you today to express my appreciation that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has not signed on to the settlement proposed by the Federal Government to address Microsoft's criminal activities.

Microsoft has blatantly and repeatedly violated the Sherman anti-trust act, and has shown no sign of remorse or intention of modifying their behavior. Their behavior in court was appalling presenting false evidence and repeatedly refusing to cooperate.

The fact that the U.S. has settled this case with essentially no penalties at all for this abusive is shocking, and frankly embarrassing. "Tough on crime" seems only to apply to those who cannot afford expensive political connections. The proposed settlement of class action suits with a "giveaway" to poor school districts, which will extend the Microsoft monopoly, is frankly shameful, but not the issue I wish to speak to today.

This outcome is very regrettable, since it will server to further stifle the computer industry and the U.S. economy. I don't believe anyone over the age of 30, and who remembers Ma Bell, could honestly say that the telecommunications growth that drove the economic boom of the 1990's would have been possible without the breakup of that telecommunications monopoly.

I work with computers daily (I am a bioinformaticist at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute), and it is very clear to me that Microsoft cannot compete with other operating systems at the level of quality (we use high-end Unix workstations, running SGI's IRIX and Linux). I truly wish that the U.S. stood for free markets and free competition, but it seems that a combination of political connections and economic jitters has convinced the department of the U.S. Attorney General to condone a shoddy, inefficient, illegal monopoly for the foreseeable future.

Thank you, Attorney General Reilly, for not lumping me, as a Massachusetts resident, in with this dodgy settlement.

Best Regards,

JP Glutting  
Brookline, Massachusetts

**CC:** Microsoft ATR

